1992, wherein the usefulness and desirability of conducting energy audit in the power system was clearly brought out.

Theft of electricity has been made a cognizable offence from August, 1986 under the amended provisions of Section 39 of Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and the utilities have been advised use the same to book the offenders.

From the year 1987, an incentive scheme has also been introduced by Ministry of Power to motivate the SEBs/ EDs to reduce T & D losses.

Counter Guarantees for Power Sector

890. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) how many counter guarantees in power sector have been signed by Government since January, 1998;

(b) what are the terms of these counter guarantees; and

(c) whether any more requests for counter guarantees from IPPs are pending with Government?

THE MINISTER OF POWER, MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) On 16.5.1998, the Government approved extension of counter-guarantee in the case of the Bhadravati Thermal Power Project (1082 MW) of M/s Central India Power Company (CIPCO) in Maharashtra, 250 MW single unit lignite based Neyveli Thermal Power Project of M/s ST-CMS Electric Company in Tamil Nadu and Visakhapatnam Thermal Power Project (1040 MW) of M/s Hinduja National Power Company Limited (HNPCL) in Andhra Pradesh, through a revised procedure. It was, *inter-alia,* decided that counter guarantee will be given only for the event of termination and will be limited to the outstanding foreign debt only. All the above three counter guarantees were signed on 1.8.1998, 14.8.1998 and 19.8.1998 respectively.

(c) Requests for counter guarantee of Government of India from promoters of two private power projects are pending. Counter Guarantee had been accorded to the Ib Valley Thermal Power Project (Unit 3 & 4) of M/s AES Ib Valley Power Corporation in Orissa. Subsequently, the State Government re-negotiated the project parameters with M/s AES Ib Valley Power Corporation and they were allocated Units 5 & 6 (now renamed as Unit A & B) of the Ib Valley Thermal Power Project. Fresh techno-economic clearance of Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is necessary for this project on account of the revised project parameters.

In the case of the 1000 MW Mangalore thermal power project of M/s Mangalore Power Company in Karnataka, the Government has decided that further steps for issue of counter guarantee for this project would be taken once the decision of the Supreme Court on the SLP filed by Government of Karnataka against the judgment of High Court of Karnataka in the Public Interest Writ Petition No. 10696/97 is available.

विद्युत ग्रिडों को परस्पर जोड़ा जाना

891. **श्री गोविन्दराम मिरी**: क्या विद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने देश में सभी विद्युत ग्रिडों को परस्पर जोड़ने हेतु कोई योजना बनाई हैं;

(ख) यदि हां,तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या हैं;

(ग) इस प्रयोजनार्थ कितनी धनराशि व्यय होने का अनुमान हैं;

(घ) किन-किन स्रोतों से यह धनराशि जुटाने जाने का प्रस्ताव हैं;और

(ड़) इस योजना को कब तक कार्यान्वित किये जाने की संभावना हैं?

विद्युत मंत्री संसदीय कार्य मंत्री और गैर-पारम्परिक ऊर्जा स्रोत मंत्री (श्री पी.आर.कुमारमंगलम): (क) और (ख) जी,हां । एक राष्ट्रीय पावरग्रिड की परिकल्पना की गई है जिसे सोपानों में क्रियान्वित किया जाएगा । इस समय अभिज्ञात किए गए सोपान निम्नवत हैं:

(i) क्षेत्रीय ग्रिडों को अंत: संयोजित किए जाने के पहले चरण में विभिन्न क्षमता(500-1000 में.वा.) के चार एच.वी.डी.सी. बैक-टू-बैंक संयोजकों की आयोजना की गई हैं । इनमें से उत्तरी और पश्चिमी क्षेत्र (विन्ध्याचल) तथा पश्चिमी और दक्षिणी क्षेत्र (चन्द्रपुर) के मध्य दो एच.वी.डी.सी.बैक-टू बैंक संयोजक प्रचालनाधीन हैं । पूर्वी और दक्षिणी क्षेत्र (गुजुवाका) तथा पूर्वी और उत्तरी क्षेत्र (सासाराम) को जोड़ने वाले अन्य दो संयोजक क्रियान्वयन की विभिन्न अवस्थाओं में हैं । एच.वी.डी.सी.संयोजकों के अलावा,पूर्वी से पश्चिमी और उत्तरी क्षेत्रों तक 400 के.वी. लाइनों की आयोजना की गई हैं ।

(ii) दूसरे चरण में,पूर्वी क्षेत्र से अन्य क्षेत्रों में उच्च क्षमता के एच.वी.डी.सी.बाईपोल की आयोजना की गई है ताकि सी.ई.पी.ए.के तालचेर चरण-2 (2000 में.वा.) और हिरमा(3960 मे.वा.) इत्यादि मेगा परियोजनाओं से विद्युत की निकासी की जा सके ।

(iii) तीसरे चरण में,एक सशक्त समकालित ग्रिड का प्रस्ताव हैं जिसमें समकालित रूप से पूर्वी,उत्तर-पूर्वी,पश्चिमी और उत्तरी क्षेत्रों को अत: संयोजित करने के लिए दो 765 के.वी. लाइनों की परिकल्पना की गई हैं ।

(ग) से (ड़) दसवीं और ग्यारहवीं योजना के समनरूप पारेषण नेटवर्को के विकास के लिए वित्त पोषण की अनुमानित लागत और पद्वति विस्तृत पारेषण आयोजना अध्ययनों के आधार पर पारेषण आवश्यकताओं के निर्धारण के पश्चात् ही निकाली जा सकेंगी ।

क्षेत्रीय ग्रिडों के प्रथम चरण को 2001-2002 तक तथा अंतिम चरण की ग्यारहवीं योजना के अंत,2012 तक पूरा कर लिए जाने की आशा हैं ।

Mega Power Policy

892. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Confederation of Indian Industry has made a number of proposals for successful implementation of the mega power policy announced by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have examined the proposals of CII; and

(d) if so, to what extent the said proposals are going to help in the implementation of mega power policy?

THE MINISTER OF POWER, MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (d) The government has been receiving a number of suggestions from various parties including the Confederation of Indian Industry on different aspects of the private power policy including the policy on development of multi state mega power projects. These relate to the security mechanisms for such projects, concessions to be made available to them and the need to reform the power sectors in the States. Such suggestions arc taken into consideration while formulating the policies.

Setting up Power Projects in States

893. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of power projects identified in Punjab and other states both in the private and the public sector to be installed with or without foreign aid during the next five years;

(b) whether ft is a fact that inspite of clearance of various power projects by the C.E.A., many states could not execute the projects;